

GOVERNOR SIGNS FOUR TAX BILLS

Segregation Now Established as
Foundation of State's
System.

MUCH YET TO BE DONE

State Contributes \$10,000 Toward
Entertainment of Confeder-
ate Reunion in June.

Governor Stuart late yesterday afternoon signed four of the main tax bills that go to make up the new system of partial segregation, which will become effective in Virginia ninety days after the General Assembly adjourns.

These four bills are:
Senate bill 5, which establishes the general plan of segregation, separating to State and locality their different subjects of taxation.

House bill 94, the measure that assigns exclusively to the State the taxes to be levied against the rolling stock of steam railroads.

Senate bill 63, the measure creating a State Advisory Board of Taxation, consisting of the Governor, the Auditor of Public Accounts and the chairman of the State Corporation Commission, who are empowered to search for intangibles, and creating local boards of review to equalize assessments on all real and tangible personal property.

Senate bill 21, which provides for the levying and collection of income taxes.

OTHER BILLS ARE

SIGNED BY GOVERNOR

Three other bills were also signed by the Governor. They are:

House bill 58, which provides for an appropriation of \$10,000 to be expended under the direction of a committee representing R. E. Lee Camp, Confederate Veterans, of this city, in entertaining visiting veterans who are to attend the annual reunion of the United Confederate Veterans, which will be held in Richmond June 2-4.

House bill 51, which adds several new banks to the list of State depositaries.

House bill 38, which reclassifies banks in Virginia for fees to be paid for bank examination.

Nine other bills that passed the two branches of the Legislature are still awaiting the Governor's signature or veto. One of these, the bill designed to protect the State from discrimination by publishers in the prices paid for textbooks for the public schools, will be vetoed, in all probability, because of the amendment it carries, prohibiting the State Board of Education from holding executive sessions in any and all circumstances. The bill may be vetoed because of the drastic character of the amendment. Many competent authorities agree with the members of the Board of Education, that in certain circumstances secret sessions are advisable in the interest of public policy.

GOVERNOR GIVES EACH

BILL CLOSE SCRUTINY

All of the tax bills to which the Governor's signature has been attached have been closely and carefully scrutinized in their every section, paragraph, sentence and clause. Governor Stuart gave many days of thought and study to the tax measures. The bills were examined and discussed by Governor Stuart in conference with some of the best authorities in the State. A final conference was held yesterday, in which Attorney-General John Garland Pollard, State Auditor C. Lee Moore and Clerk Farr, of the Auditor's office, participated.

While the four tax bills already signed suffice to establish the system of partial segregation of taxes in the State, the tax reform plan is still far from complete. The Joint Committee on Tax Laws of the General Assembly, which is now sitting in Richmond, will formulate and perfect other bills pertaining to taxation. These are intended as integral parts of the general tax reform system, and will be submitted to the General Assembly at the end of the recess next month to be enacted into law.

MANY DETAILS GO OVER

TO NEXT SESSION

Much will be left, however, to the next General Assembly, for it was never expected when the special session was called that the present Legislature would work out a perfect plan of taxation to replace the antiquated system of taxation that had been in effect. In laying solid foundations upon which succeeding General Assemblies may gradually build wisely and safely the present Legislature will accomplish the task to which it was set. Even the most sanguine of the advocates of the partial segregation plan did not anticipate the creation by the General Assembly in a single session of a system of tax reform that will measure fully up to the needs of the Commonwealth.

The division of the taxes between State and locality is prescribed in what is known as the administration segregation bill, House bill No. 8. It assigns to the county, city or town these subjects of taxation: all taxable real estate and all taxable tangible personal property, except the rolling stock of corporations operating by steam; and all taxes on insurance, taxes and all taxes on insurance companies, and all taxes on intangible personal property, except the rolling stock of corporations operating by steam.

PROVISION MADE FOR

SCHOOLS AND ROADS

The provision is made that the present State school tax of 10 cents on each \$100 of the assessed value of real estate and tangible property shall be continued as at present for the year 1915, and until otherwise changed by law, which tax shall be applied to the support of the public free schools for the equal benefit of all of the people of the State and be apportioned on a basis of the school population.

The bill further provides that "nothing herein contained shall prevent any city from levying a tax upon said segregated intangible personal property assessed to the residents therein at

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GERMANS ACQUITTED

Given Retrial for Alleged Pillage at
Peronne in September.

PARIS, February 16 (5:25 P. M.).—German surgeons and nurses sentenced by court-martial late in November to prison terms for alleged pillage at Peronne on September 15, and who appealed, were given a retrial to-day and acquitted. The decision of the court was that there was an absence of precise proof of the alleged theft.

When the hospital at Peronne was captured by the French, the bulky nature of the baggage of the German surgeons and nurses aroused suspicion. A search was ordered and it was alleged that in the baggage of Surgeon-Major Collins, who, with Surgeon-Major Wohlfart, was in charge of the hospital, there were found three Tanagra statuettes, with labels of the Peronne Museum attached to them. In the baggage of the nurses it was charged that there were pieces of silk, carpets and fine linen. The nurses asserted, it was stated, that these things had been given them by the Carmelite Sisters in appreciation of their kindness to the French wounded.

The hospital belonged to the Second German Army Corps.

IRON CROSS FOR VON MUECKE

Commanded Detail from the Emden
Which Landed at Cocos Island.

BERLIN (via Amsterdam to London), February 15.—Lieutenant-Commander von Muecke, commander of the detail from the cruiser Emden which landed at Cocos Island, has been awarded the Iron Cross, first class. Every other member of the landing party has received the Iron Cross, second class.

When the Emden was run down by the Australian cruiser Sydney on November 19 in the Indian Ocean, von Muecke and forty of the crew were on Cocos Island. They escaped by commandeering the schooner Aysha. A later dispatch from Manila said they had captured a collier, on which they had mounted two Maxim's. The French Ministry of Marine announced on December 13 that the collier had been captured. Berlin announced on February 5, however, that the Aysha had arrived at Hodeida, Arabia, with von Muecke and his men.

SPECKELS GOES TO CUBA

Head of Refining Company Will Investigate
Sugar Situation.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
NEW YORK, February 16.—Claus A. Speckels, president of the Federal Sugar Refining Company, has gone to Cuba to investigate the sugar situation. Owing to continued unfavorable weather there and the scarcity of shipping room, there has been a sharp rise in raw and refined sugars, and the trade is closely watching developments.

The European war, it is pointed out, by devastating a large portion of the sugar-beet growing area, and by preventing the exportation of Austria's and Germany's surplus stocks, probably will result in a world-wide shortage of sugar by fall. Mr. Speckels expects to return to New York by March 1.

ALBANIAN RAIDERS ROUTED

Invaders Driven Back Across Serbian
Frontier.

PARIS, February 16.—A Nish dispatch to the Havas Agency says:
"The Albanian raiders have been routed and driven back across the Serbian frontier. More complete information shows the Albanians were led into making the raid by Austrian priests and Mohammedan advisers of Essad Pasha, the Provisional President, by preaching a holy war. The movement is being directed by Turkish and German agents."

FLOATS LOAN OF \$2,600,000

Southern Public Utilities Company Will
Improve Its Service.

GREENVILLE, S. C., February 16.—An official of the Southern Public Utilities Company announced here to-night that the company within the past few days floated a loan in New York of \$2,600,000, which amount would be used in improving the services of the company in sixteen cities and towns in North and South Carolina. The official did not state the firm making the loan nor where the greater part of the bonds was to be spent.

TRIAL OF DE WET BEGINS

Leaders of South African Rebellion
Charged With High Treason.

BLOEMFONTEIN (via London), February 16.—Trial of General Christian General de Wet was captured on De African rebellion against Great Britain, on charge of high treason, began here to-day.

General Dewet was captured on December 1 at Waterburg, British Bechuanaland. Nearly all the other rebel commanders have since been captured or surrendered.

CAMPAIGNS FOR HUSBAND

Mrs. Carter Harrison Files Number of
Speaking Engagements.

CHICAGO, February 16.—Mrs. Carter H. Harrison, wife of the Mayor, to-day addressed several meetings of workers, urging them to renominate Mr. Harrison next Tuesday as the Democratic candidate for Mayor.

Mayor Harrison, because of illness, was unable to fill a number of his engagements, and Mrs. Harrison volunteered to take his place.

THAW TRIAL MARCH 1

Special Panel of 200 From Which to
Select Jury Ordered Drawn.

NEW YORK, February 16.—The trial of Harry K. Thaw, on charge of conspiracy, was set to-day for March 1. It previously had been set for February 23.

A special panel of 200 talemens from which is to be selected a jury to try Thaw was ordered drawn to-day by Supreme Court Justice Weeks.

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SHIP BILL PASSES HOUSE, 215 TO 121

Favorable Action on Measure
Follows Fourteen-Hour Par-
liamentary Struggle.

PRESIDENT STILL HAS HOPE

If Present Plans for Prompt Ac-
tion in Senate Fail, It Is to
Be Abandoned.

WASHINGTON, February 17.—The government ship-purchase bill, as an amendment to the Weeks naval auxiliary bill, was passed by the House of Representatives at 1:29 o'clock this morning by a vote of 215 to 121.

The passage of the bill followed a fourteen-hour parliamentary struggle, which, until long after midnight, threatened to extend interminably, because of a determined filibuster directed by Minority Leader Mann, who yielded only after administration leaders decided to apply a second special rule to bring the fight to an end.

The bill will go to the Senate at noon to-day.

Nineteen Democrats voted against the bill. They were: Baughman, Borchers, Callaway, Dies, Donohue, Fitzgerald, Gerry, Gordon, Jones, Kindel, Kitchen, Morrison, Moss, of Indiana; Page, of North Carolina; Saunders, Slayden, Whitacre, White and Witherspoon.

All Republicans present voted against the bill.

Democratic leaders in both houses agreed to-night that the government ship-purchase bill either would be before President Wilson for his signature within a few days or dead, so far as this session is concerned. The House remained in session late to-night to pass the Weeks-Gore bill, as the amended measure is known, and to-morrow the administration forces will begin a final effort to get a vote in the Senate on the House amendments over the opposition of Republicans and revolting Democrats.

MAJORITY LEADERS

CONFIDENT OF VICTORY

Majority leaders spoke confidently to-day of the prospect of victory, and President Wilson, after a conference with Senator Kern, told callers the bill would be passed.

On both sides of the Capitol belief was current that if present plans for prompt action in the Senate fell through, the ship bill would be abandoned, and all efforts centered upon disposing of appropriation bills to make unnecessary an extra session.

While the House debated the Weeks-Gore bill, the Senate continued its discussion of cloture rules, and Senate leaders of all factions conferred as to the next moves to be made. Report had it that the administration forces to-morrow would attempt to hut off debate by moving the previous question, and thus forcing a vote of a motion to concur in the House amendments. Should this prevail, it would be equivalent to passage of the ship-purchase bill measure, and thereby end the long and turbulent fight.

ACTIVE IN PREPARATION

OF SUPPLY MEASURES

Senate committees in charge of appropriation bills were active preparing the supply measures for Senate consideration as soon as the legislative ways are cleared.

The ship bill as it will go to the Senate from the House includes the ship-purchase measure as agreed upon in Senate caucus and a provision that two years after the close of the European war ships acquired by the United States shall be turned over to the Secretary of the Navy, to be operated or leased for commercial purposes under the terms of the Weeks bill, already passed by the Senate.

Senator Smoot has given notice that the debate will be continued by the opposition until March 4, unless the Democrats withdraw the measure or some unusual tactics are resorted to by administration forces.

Charges of improper influences exerted with relation to the bill, ordered investigated by the Senate yesterday, were taken under consideration to-day by the special Senate committee, and a formal inquiry will begin to-morrow morning. Bernard S. Baker, of Baltimore, former manager of the Atlantic Transport Line, and Edmund Albert, of New York, representative of some of the German-American steamship companies, have been summoned by the committee, and are expected to appear at that time.

SEVENTEEN DEMOCRATS

RELEASED FROM RULE

Seventeen House Democrats were released to-day from the caucus rule binding them to support the ship measure. They were: Representatives Kitchen, majority leader of the next House; and Page, of North Carolina; Fitzgerald, Patten and Griffin, of New York; Slayden, Beall and Callaway, of Texas; Witherspoon and Sisson, of Mississippi; Gerry, of Rhode Island; Saunders, of Virginia; Gallivan, of Massachusetts; Davenport, of Oklahoma; Bartlett, of Georgia; Brockton, of Delaware; and Whitacre, of Ohio.

Representative Webb, of North Carolina, opening debate for the bill in the House, declared that the United States now was confronted with "the greatest opportunity that any nation ever found in foreign commerce."

"It seems to me that at one part of this Capitol they are fiddling while Rome burns," he added. He said government ownership "had no terrors" for him, citing the activities of the government in the Philippines, the Panama Railroad and the Alaskan Railroad to show that the United States already was in private business.

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DARING AIR RAID ON BELGIAN TOWNS

Forty British and French Aero-
planes Attack German
Positions.

GOOD RESULTS ARE OBTAINED

Bombs Dropped on Batteries,
Trawlers, Barges and
Aerodrome.

Airmen Bombard

German Positions

BRITISH and French airmen again have bombarded German positions in Northern Belgium, damaging gun positions, trawlers and barges, transport wagons and canal locks. Forty aeroplanes were engaged in the raid.

An important success for the French is chronicled in the latest official communication issued at Paris, which announces the capture of nearly two miles of German trenches in the Champagne region near Perthes.

From the nature of the whole statement it would seem that activity in the west has increased greatly the last two days. The further announcement is made that south of Ypres, the British troops control trenches around which a two days' engagement has been waged.

In the east, particularly in East Prussia, the Germans are carrying on successful offensive operations. The Russians are working on several lines of railways radiating from Gdansk, by which it is hoped to give more mobility to their troops in forestalling the quick changes of the Austrian and German forces.

While the Russians report the situation in the Carpathians as virtually unchanged, unofficial reports by way of Budapest and Vienna declare that the Austrians everywhere have been successful in their offensive movement in Dukla Pass. According to this statement, the total losses of the Russians in this particular section in the past few days number 50,000 men.

EDWARD A. CATLIN DIES

AFTER BRIEF ILLNESS

Well-Known Capitalist and Real Es-
tate Man Passes Away at
His Home.

LONDON, February 16 (11:50 P. M.).—The air wing of the British navy to-day made another massed attack on the German positions along the Belgian coast, in an effort to destroy or damage the submarine base at Zebrugge, the guns at Ostend and Middelkerke and the aerodrome at Ghistelles.

According to the official report, good results were attained. Forty machines were utilized.

While the British airmen were dropping their bombs on the gun positions and the supply trains, barges and trawlers used in mine-laying and mine-sweeping operations, eight French airmen attacked the Ghistelles aerodrome, preventing the German airmen from making an attempt to cut off the British machines.

The official statement concerning the raid says:
"The air operations of the naval wing against the Bruges, Ostend and Zebrugge districts were continued this afternoon. Forty aeroplanes and sea-planes bombarded Ostend, Middelkerke, Ghistelles and Zebrugge."

"Bombs were dropped on the heavy batteries on the east and west side of Ostend, on gun positions at Middelkerke, on transport wagons on the Ostend-Ghistelles Road, on the mole at Zebrugge, to widen the breach damaged in former attacks on the locks at Zebrugge; on barges outside Blankenbergh, and on trawlers outside Zebrugge."

STOP GERMAN AIRCRAFT

FROM CUTTING OFF MACHINES

"Eight French aeroplanes assisted the naval machines by making vigorous attacks on the Ghistelles infantry, preventing German aircraft from cutting off our machines. It is reported that good results were obtained."

"Instructions are always issued to confine attacks to points of military importance, and every effort is made by the flying officers to avoid dropping bombs on any residential portions of towns."

The official report makes no mention of the airmen engaged, so it is presumed they all returned safely. The day was bright and clear, conditions being more favorable than for last week's raid.

Though the statement of the British admiralty does not give the order in which the German positions were attacked, it is assumed that the bombardment was carried out in the order in which the towns are named in the report.

Ostend, the heavy batteries established by the Germans on both sides of the harbor were marked the targets of a furious rain of projectiles.

CO-OPERATION OF FRENCH

PREVIOUSLY ARRANGED

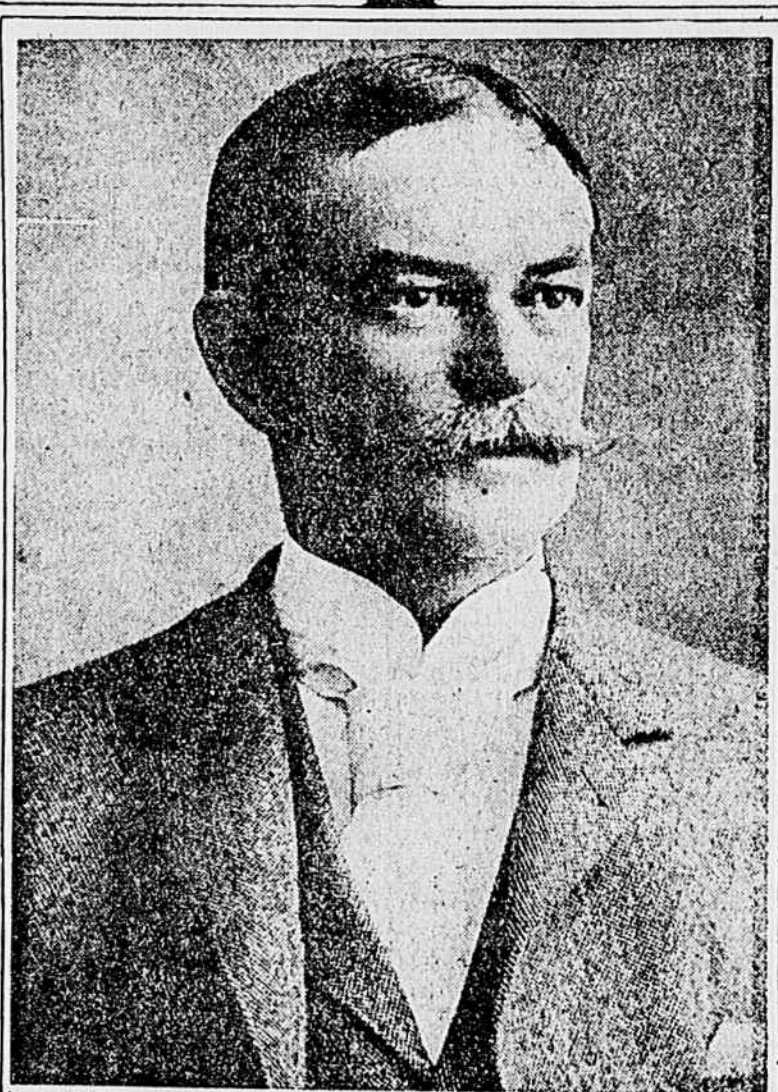
It is apparent that the co-operation of the French machines had been previously arranged. During the previous raid the work of the British airmen had been hindered by the presence of German machines which, though not in sufficient strength to spoil the plans of the British, were indirectly responsible for to-day's raid, because the British in the previous attack were forced, due to this diversion, to suspend operations before the damage sought to be inflicted had been done.

Evidently the French machines preceded the British squadron, and at once attacked the Ghistelles aerodrome, so that, after the British had done their work at Ostend, the course to Ze-

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ENGLAND NOT AFRAID OF GERMAN THREATS

Prominent Business Man Dead



EDWARD A. CATLIN.

EDWARD A. CATLIN DIES AFTER BRIEF ILLNESS

Well-Known Capitalist and Real Es-
tate Man Passes Away at
His Home.

ONCE PRESIDENT OF BANK

Served in Hanover Dragoons During
War Between the States—Was Ac-
tive in Founding Laurel Reform-
atory School for Boys.

Edward A. Catlin, of the real estate firm of E. A. Catlin & Co., and one of the best-known citizens of Richmond, died last night at 7:10 o'clock in his home at 1104 Grove Avenue, after an illness of six weeks. Death was due to a heart affection. Mr. Catlin improved somewhat last week, and on Saturday went to the Westmoreland Club, of which he was a member, and remained a short time. On Sunday he had a relapse, and he continued to become worse until death intervened.

Mr. Catlin was in his sixty-ninth year. He had been engaged in the real estate business since early manhood, and was president of the Security Bank until that institution was merged with a larger house. He was a member of the board of directors of the Laurel Reformatory School, and was active in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the city, and in all things which tended to lead to the improvement of Richmond he took a leading and interested part.

LOSS WILL BE FELT.

SAYS T. M. CARRINGTON

"In the death of Mr. Catlin," said T. M. Carrington, former president of the Chamber of Commerce, last night, "Richmond has lost a valued and esteemed citizen, and his loss will be felt by many who knew and loved him."

Mr. Catlin was born in Richmond, the son of William Catlin. Here he attended school in his boyhood days, and when the War Between the States broke out he enlisted in the Hanover Dragoons, Fourth Virginia Regiment of Cavalry, with which he served through the struggle. Afterwards there was no cause so appealing to him as the care of the old Confederate soldier, and to the various Confederate veteran camps he gave much of his time and means.

Following the war Mr. Catlin went to Danville, where he spent much of his early business life. Later he returned to Richmond, and engaged in the real estate business, and he was one of those who was always in the forefront in developing the suburban territory.

ACTIVE IN FOUNDING

LAUREL REFORMATORY

As he became older he turned to things that were beyond and outside of business, and as a member of the board of directors of the Laurel Reformatory he was active and as earnest, and in the great work and success of that institution Mr. Catlin's influence has been a leading factor. He was a member of the Second Presbyterian Church.

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EFFORT TO BRING ENGLAND TO TERMS THROUGH FORCE

Admiral Behneke Explains Ger-
many's Purpose in Declaring Sea
War Zone.

MUST PUT DECREE INTO ACTION

By Use of Submarines, Can Place
Great Britain in Position Where
Food Will Be Lacking—Difficulties
Connected With Care for Neutrals.

BERLIN, February 16 (by wireless to Sayville).—Germany's purpose in declaring a sea war zone around the British Isles is explained at length in a statement made by Admiral Behneke, of the Marine Department, and transmitted to Lieutenant-Commander Walter R. Gherard, naval attaché of the American embassy. It is given out officially as follows:

"Up to the present time Germany, in the war at sea, has followed the London Declaration or the stipulations of the Paris treaty, on which the conduct of war on the sea has been based before the London Declaration. In waging this commercial warfare, England had in view the subjugation of Germany by starvation. Germany in every way had sought to bring the attention of the neutral powers and all others to the necessity she was under to obtain food for her civilian population, which was her right under the laws of war. No results could be obtained from her efforts."

"Since the shutting off of food supplies had now come to a point where Germany no longer had sufficient food to feed her people, it became necessary for her to bring England to terms through force. Germany knows that by the use of the submarine England can be placed in a position where food will be lacking. Her life as a nation and the lives of her people depend on putting this campaign into action, and she must do so."

"The difficulties in the way of this campaign have been largely connected with the care which it is desired to give to neutral ships, and to the lives of those on board all commercial ships, whether neutral or belonging to the enemy."

UNITED STATES TAKES

BRITISH POINT OF VIEW

"First, in arming her merchant ships with guns for self-defense, England adopted a policy against which Germany strongly protests; the United States took the British point of view. Submarines cannot approach British merchant ships and make examinations without exposing themselves."

"Second, England has advised her merchant fleet to fly neutral flags, to cover up names and change stacks to escape the consequences of their nationality. This plan was designed to bring Germany into conflict with other nations."

"Germany does not wish to harm American or other neutral ships or their cargoes unless carrying contraband. She is, however, in a position where her life depends upon her putting into effect the only means she has of saving herself. She must, and will, use this means."

"Commanding officers of submarines have been ordered to make every effort to safeguard neutrals. In spite of the precautions, the possibility was noted that neutral ships, through error or attack, might be destroyed. For

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THE PLACE TO BOARD

can easily be determined by
putting a small Ad. in the
classified columns of
THE TIMES-DISPATCH

GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE REPRISALS AGAINST ENEMIES

Shows in Many Ways There
Is No Thought of Grant-
ing Concessions.

AMERICAN AMBASSADOR

CONFERES WITH GREY

United States Makes No Further
Move in Diplomatic Con-
troversy.

INFORMAL CONFERENCES HELD

Washington Officials, Admitting
Gravity of Situation, Re-
fuse to Talk.

German Proposal

Sent to England

THE proposal of the German government to recede from its announced intention to employ submarines in the recently declared war zone on condition that Great Britain permit supplies to go to Germany has been transmitted to the British government by the American ambassador at London, who has charge of German interests there.

Great Britain is coincidentally preparing strong retaliatory measures against the threatened German submarine "blockade," and it is expected that the prohibition against foodstuffs destined for Germany will be proclaimed immediately.

Norway, Sweden and Denmark will send a joint note to Great Britain and Germany protesting respectively against the use of neutral flags by British ships and the carrying out of Germany's sea war zone proclamation.

The Norwegian and Danish war insurance companies have ordered vessels of the respective countries to display prominently on their sides the national colors of their countries, and also the names of the ships.

LONDON, February 16 (8 P. M.).—

Walter Hines Page, the American ambassador, conferred to-day with Sir Edward Grey, the British Foreign Secretary, concerning the German consent not to attack merchant ships if Great Britain will permit foodstuffs for the civilian population to enter Germany.

Mr. Page and Sir Edward also discussed the steamer *Wilhelmina*, loaded with food for Germany, which is being held at Falmouth for a prize court, and the status of which has not yet been determined.

The British government has evidenced in many ways that it is unfettered by threats of attacks on shipping, and that it has no thought of making any concessions to Germany, but on the contrary is preparing to tighten the restrictions upon freight movements toward that country. Statements in Parliament also have indicated that it is the determination of Great Britain to make reprisals if Germany enforces her threat to destroy merchant ships together with their crews.

Should the effort of the Commission for the Relief of Belgium to buy the cargo of the *Wilhelmina* fail, the evidence of the owners that the food is destined to the civil population of Germany alone probably would be submitted to the prize court. It is considered unlikely, however, that any evidence could be produced which would induce Great Britain to permit the food to go to Germany without the action of any prize court.

U. S. MAKES NO MOVE IN

DIPLOMATIC CONTROVERSY

WASHINGTON, February 16.—The United States made no further move to-day in the diplomatic controversy with Great Britain and Germany over the use of neutral flags, the submarine campaign on merchantmen, the shipment of foodstuffs to Germany. Officials awaited formal replies from Great Britain and Germany to the recent American notes on the subject. Ambassador Page, at London, and Ambassador Gerard, at Berlin, sent dispatches to the State Department telling of informal conferences with the high officials of Great Britain and Germany, respectively, but did not indicate the policy on shipments of conditional contraband to civilians, or that the latter would recede from its announced intention of waging a submarine war on enemy merchant ships.